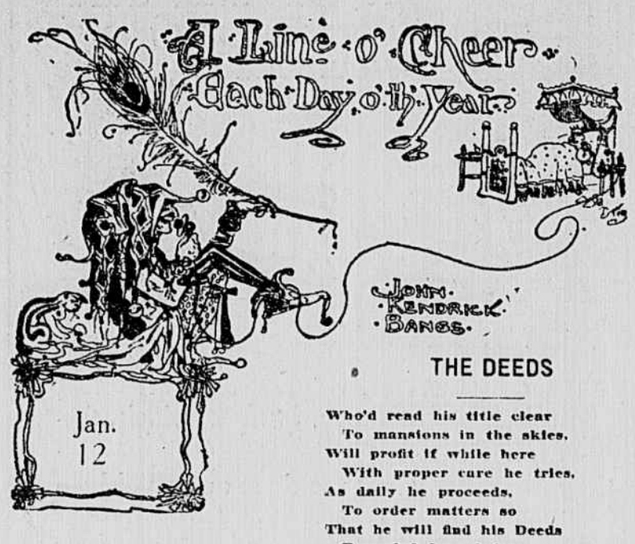
Of Interest to Every Woman

Edited by Martha Westover



THE DEEDS

Who'd read his title clear
To mansions in the skies,
Will profit if while here
With proper care he tries,
As daily he proceeds,
To order matters so
That he will find his Deeds
Recorded here below.

MENU

Breakfast.

Stewed Prunes Cereal
Fresh Chipped Beef,
Browned in Butter
Rolls Coffee

Luncheon.

Minced Meat on Toast
French Fried Potatoes
Lettuce With French Dressing
Cream Cheese Wafers
Tea

Dinner.

Pea Soup
Roast Fore Quarter of Lamb
Sweet Potatoes Turnips
Currant Jelly
Chocolate Blanc-mange
Coffee

Chocolate Blanc Mange.

Heat a pint of milk and add to it a pinch of soda. Into the milk stir a half cupful of sugar, and when this is dissolved two generous tablespoonfuls of corn starch wet with cold milk. Cook until smooth and very thick; add two heaping tablespoonfuls of grated chocolate, and cook for a minute before removing from the fire. Stir into the pudding a teaspoonful of vanilla, turn into a mold wet with cold water, and set in a cold place to form.

MUCH CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN OF CLOCKS

Clocks are so sensitive to care that the woman who can afford to do so gladly relegates their winding and oiling to a man who makes that sort of work his business. He visits her house at stated intervals—whenever the clocks need winding—and guarantees to keep them in order. If such a man is employed, then the care of the clocks must be left entirely in one person's hands. It ruins clocks if they are constantly tinkered with and it is much easier for one person than for two persons to keep track of them.

Be careful about winding clocks. Wind them always at the same time and never wind them too tight. Find out just how many full turns of the key it takes to wind the clock to the proper point, and always stop with that number of turns.

A clockmaker says that the hands of the clock should never be turned backward. If it is necessary to set the clock, push the hands forward, as there are some very delicate screws that the backward pushing is likely to disturb.

If the clock strikes, always wait, when setting the clock, with the hand just after each hour for the clock to strike for that hour; and wait at the half-hours, too, if the clock strikes every thirty minutes.

Don't let the clock run down. Wind it regularly every twelve or twenty-four or thirty-six hours or seven days or every stated time when it needs winding.

Don't tinker with a clock's mechanism yourself. This mechanism is highly organized and delicate, and it requires the knowledge of an expert to readjust it properly.

A clock should never be moved from one position. If it does not go when it is first placed, probably it is placed unevenly. An unevenness of a fraction of an inch may cause a clock to vary several minutes from the right time each day or may cause it to fail to go altogether. So start it in a good position and leave it there as long as possible.

If a clock stops, and it is not run down or wound too tight or on an uneven surface, send for a clockmaker. It may need oiling, but oiling is something which only an expert should be allowed to do. It may need cleaning, and this, too, should be done by an expert.

Household Notes

The piano case sometimes needs cleaning. For this, provide two basins of clean, lukewarm water, to be renewed as often as necessary, and three good-sized pieces of cheese-cloth. Wring one cloth nearly dry from the first basin, rub in Ivory soap and clean about a square foot of the surface. Wring the second cloth nearly dry from the second basin and wipe off the suds. Rinse and wring the cloth again and wipe any moisture that remains. Rub dry with the third cloth, using quick, light strokes and little pressure. Proceed in this way until the entire instrument has been cleaned. Then go over slightly with a clean, soft handkerchief, or a very soft new chamois.

Thursday is generally set apart for cleaning windows and sweeping the living room and cleaning the bath-room—Thursday afternoon and evening being the maid's outing times. Friday is a general sweeping day. Saturday being baking day. There should be one day in every week when the housewife has not planned anything, but does the little odd things which have no name. But do not become a slave of routine; the best rules can be broken with impunity.

Fashions and Fads

Some of the new trimming materials are embroidered with silks, beads and braid.

Muffs and scarfs are ornamented with bows of ribbon or small bunches of fruit or flowers.

Good looking is a street dress of navy blue serge combined with blue and green clan plaid.

Some tunics are short and Oriental in appearance and are outlined with fur bands.

Many beautiful evening gowns are trimmed with lemon-yellow, orange, rose or apple-green fur.

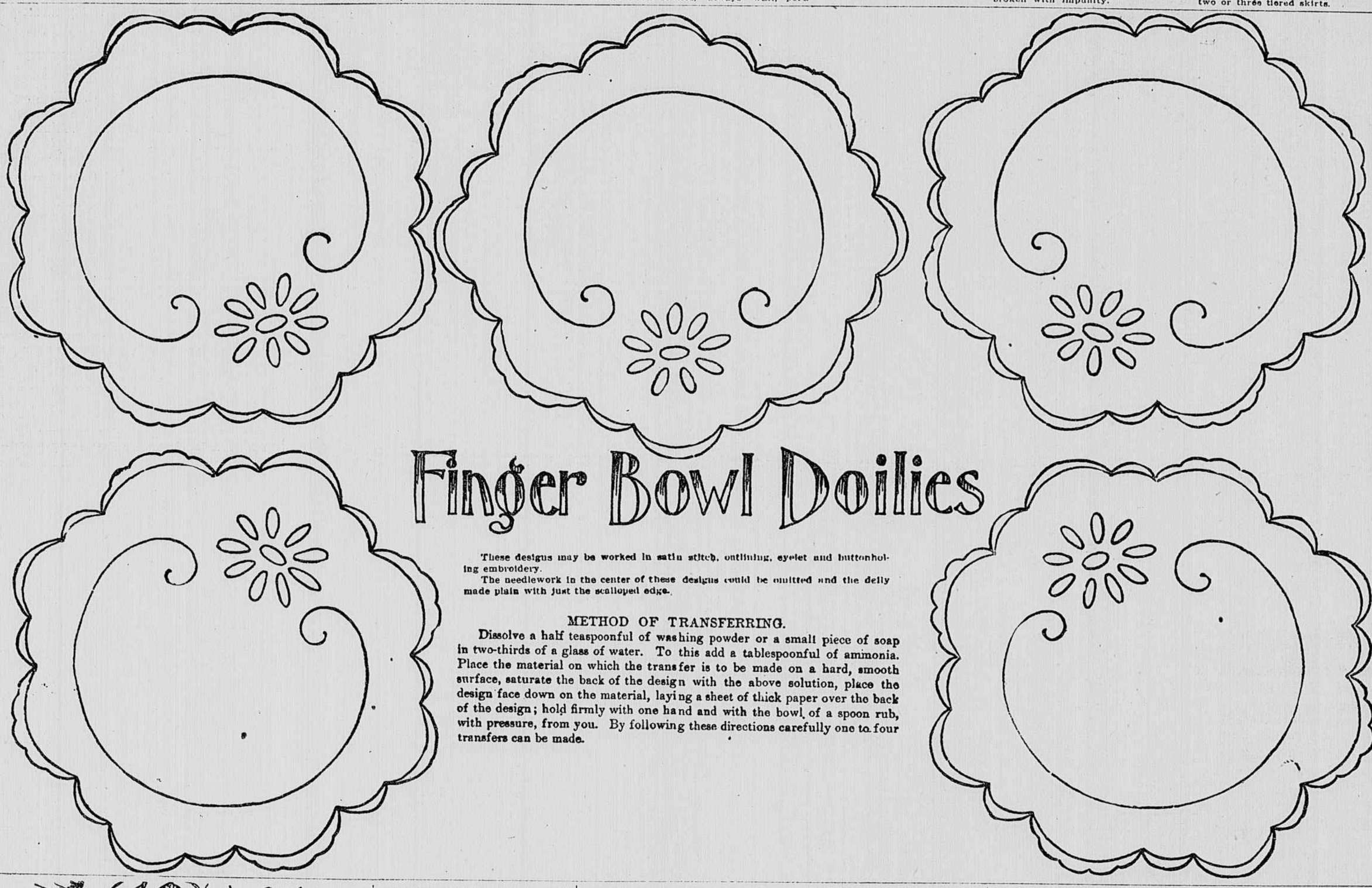
Winter tailormades fashioned of the new material, known as duvetyne, are pretty and dignified.

The crownless wedding veil is entirely new; it is held in place by a halo of orange blossoms.

Sometimes a touch of plaid is introduced in the coat by means of a belt or a vest or waistcoat.

Furs adorn not only the morning tailor-made, but the dressy afternoon and diaphanous evening frock.

Dance frocks for the debutante are fashioned of white tulle or lace with two or three tiered skirts.



Finger Bowl Doilies

These designs may be worked in satin stitch, outlining, eyelet and buttonholing embroidery.

The needlework in the center of these designs could be omitted and the doily made plain with just the scalloped edge.

METHOD OF TRANSFERRING.

Dissolve a half teaspoonful of washing powder or a small piece of soap in two-thirds of a glass of water. To this add a tablespoonful of ammonia. Place the material on which the transfer is to be made on a hard, smooth surface, saturate the back of the design with the above solution, place the design face down on the material, laying a sheet of thick paper over the back of the design; hold firmly with one hand and with the bowl of a spoon rub, with pressure, from you. By following these directions carefully one to four transfers can be made.

Trial of Mary Queen of Scots.

Mary Queen of Scots, having been dethroned by her own subjects, and having fled to England for refuge, remained confined as the wish of Queen Elizabeth for many years. All during this time, however, it was claimed that she had entered into plots and conspiracies against Elizabeth, and many opinions were brought up as to what was to be done with her. Some thought that no rigorous course should be pursued, as she was ill and would not live long, while others thought that she should forthwith be put to death.

It was decided, however, to place her on trial; but upon what statute the lords differed. Some thought she should be tried under the statute of Edward III, but others thought that the trial should be conducted under the new act of Elizabeth. After a long discussion of the matter, it was carried for the latter act, as being made for that very purpose.

In the indictment the commissioners called her simply Mary, daughter of James V., King of Scots, and in part of the document named her as Queen. The first meeting of these commissioners was held on October 11, 1586, at Fotheringhay Castle. The following day Sir Walter Mildmay was dispatched to Mary with a letter from Queen Elizabeth, to which Mary replied: "It grieves me much that the Queen, my most dear sister, is suspicious of me; though I have given her full and faithful notice of several dangers that threatened her, yet has no credit been given to me, but I have been still condemned and slighted, though I be so nearly allied to her in blood."

On October 14th the Queen was brought to trial. In the courtroom, after silence had been proclaimed, the Lord Chancellor Bromley spoke a few words to this effect: "The most serene Queen Elizabeth being informed, not without great grief and trouble of mind, that you have conspired the destruction of her person, and the subversion of our religion, has, according to her station and duty, lest she might seem to neglect herself and her people, and out of no manner of malice of heart, appointed these commissioners to hear such things as shall be objected against you, and how you can clear yourself of them, and manifest your innocence to the world."

The Queen thereupon stood up and said: "I have come to England to solicit the assistance which had been promised me, and yet I have ever since been kept a prisoner. I am no subject of the Queen's, but was myself a free Queen, and therefore not obliged to appear before commissioners or any other judge, but before God alone, the highest Judge."

After this the Queen of Scots announced that she was ready to hear and answer any fact whatsoever committed against the Queen of England. Thereupon Sergeant Gawdy opened the statute paragraph by paragraph, affirming she had violated the same, and then making a deduction of Babington's conspiracy and mentioning Ballard, Morgan and others concerned in it, he concluded: "That she knew of it, assented to it, promised her assistance and showed the ways and means of effecting it."

To this the Queen replied that she did not know Babington, had never received any letters from him, that she had never written to him, and that she never plotted the destruction of the Queen, and that to prove any such thing her own handwriting should be produced. For her own part, she said that she had never heard a word of it and that she did not know Ballard.

Then it was urged against her that her letters to Babington were in the possession of the court, and transcrips of his letters to her were read, wherein the whole conspiracy was set forth. To this Mary replied that Babington might write these letters, but "let it be proved that I received them. If Babington or anybody else does affirm it, I say directly they lie."

Then the lawyers proceeded to prove further that Mary was both privy to the conspiracy and also actually conspired the death of the Queen. Also that she had intentions to send her son into Spain and to transfer her title and claim in the Kingdom of England to the Spaniards. To this Mary replied: "I have no kingdom to dispose of or convey, and if she had, were it not lawful for her to bestow those things which were hers at her pleasure?"

The trials continued the following day, when more testimony was taken, after which an adjournment was made to the 25th of October. On this day her secretaries, Nawe and Curle, having under oath affirmed and justified all and every letter to be true and real and written by Mary, sentence was pronounced. She was beheaded on February 9, 1587. She had been a prisoner in England about eighteen years, and was thirty-six years old when she was executed.

RUGS FROM THE RAG BAG.

BY FRANCES MARSHALL.

The fad for making rag rugs was resurrected about ten years ago, and the rather odd thing about it is that it is still in force. Rag rugs are still considered by many housewives as the most suitable for bedrooms, bathrooms and kitchens, for when they are made of thin cotton they can be easily washed and ironed. Many colonial houses of simple design and furnishing are fitted throughout with rag rugs, for they make an appropriate background for old mahogany furniture. They are surely better, when they are dyed in soft, harmonious colors, than half the rugs one sees in the shops where rugs are sold.

So, if you have a bulging rag bag, and have not yet stepped into the line of rag rug advocates, think on the advantages of these simple floor coverings and begin to empty your rag bag.

COLORS.

The hit-and-miss type of rag rug must be made carefully. No unpleasant color should be used in such a rug. Good blues, red, yellows, greens, browns, and plenty of black and white can all be used, but hard purples, oranges or, indeed, hard shades of any color should be avoided.

The rags should be cut into short strips for hit-and-miss rugs, strips about half or three-quarters of an inch wide. Then they should be sewed securely together—first a blue, then a white, then a red, then a brown, then another white, then a green, and so on. It is well to sew across the strip and back again, with stout cotton thread, so that the sewing will not rip out. The plan adopted by the woman who wants to save time is this: Sew the pieces of cloth together on the sewing machine, with a tight, firm stitch, across and back again. Then cut them in strips of the required width. There is almost no danger of ripping if the stitch is firm enough. Of course, this sort of sewing makes a certain similarity to the colors in the rug, but it is attractive to have the regular repetition of red, blue, white, brown, yellow, white and black which would necessarily follow if yard-wide pieces of cloth of these colors were stitched together and then cut in long strips.

If you have lots of white cloth—old sheets, for instance—on hand, dye it yourself. Try dyeing it a soft shade of brown or green or blue. Then make a brown and green rug, for instance, or a blue and white one.

THE MAKING.

Rag rugs can be woven at small cost by a professional or they can be braided at home. The method of braiding is this: Get a strip of wood four or five feet wide, and fasten the strands of cloth, a little longer than you want the rug, on this board. Now braid them in threes until they are all braided up. Then sew the long braids together with heavy thread of the same or contrasting color in an over and over stitch. After you have become adept you can use a cross-stitch design for joining the braids, and you can also braid long strands and fasten them together for round or oval rugs, winding the long braid around and around itself until the required size is finished.